

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of changes will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the specification.

Listing of Claims:

1-20. (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) A method of connecting a client system to a target network comprising:

providing application client software to the client system that will allow the client system to connect to the target network via a host system; said application software being configured on said client system that identifies said client system as a member of a cooperative networking group; and

connecting the client system to the host system ~~target network~~ via application software on a host system; said host application software being configured to communicate with the client system that has the configured client application software that identifies the client system as a member of the cooperative networking group; said host system being capable of accessing the target network and having low level communication resources that are used in accessing the target network; and ~~controlled by the software provided in the client system, said software on said host system corresponding to the software provided to the client system, the step of connecting the client system to the target network comprising:~~

~~determining requirements for connecting the client system to the target network; and~~

linking the client system to the target network via a tunnel through the low level communication resources of the host system wherein the client software accesses said low level communication resources needed to connect to the target network and said host application software prevents the client system based on the requirements; ~~wherein said client software is prevented from accessing other resources of said host system.~~

22. (currently amended) The method of claim 21 further comprising the steps of determining requirements for connecting the client system to the target network; and linking the client system to the target network based on the requirements; wherein the determining step is made in a server.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the target network is the Internet.
24. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the target network is a public network.
25. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the target network is a PSTN.
26. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the client system is a mobile phone.
27. (cancelled).
28. (currently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the host system and the client system are members of the cooperative networking group a service that gives reciprocal roaming rights.
29. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 where the determining step further comprises:
determining a cost of obtaining a link; and
comparing the cost with a predetermined limit stored by said client system where a match will be found if the cost is less than or equal to the predetermined limit.
30. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the host system is not connected to the target network and will make the connection to the target network upon request by the client system.
31. (canceled)
32. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 further comprising connecting a second client system to the first client system in order that the second client system is able to access the target network through the host system.
33. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 further comprising

connecting through a second host system under control of the second host system, the second host system being capable of accessing the target network;

connecting the client system to the second host system under the control of the client system;

comparing preferences of the second host system and the client system under the control of a matching means;

establishing a secure link from the client system to the target network through the second host system when the requirements of the second host system and client system match; said client system not accessing any resources of the second host system; and

disconnecting the client system from the first host system.

34. (currently amended) The method of claim 22-24 wherein the determining step further comprises the step of notifying a user of the client system of the availability of a link wherein the user can accept or reject the connection.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein any data sent by the client system is encrypted prior to being sent to the network such that the privacy and security of the client are maintained.

36. (previously presented) The method of claim 35 wherein the encryption can be selectively applied to the data depending on preferences.

37. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the connecting step comprises the step of causing the host system to mimic air interference for a cordless telephone link

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 37 further comprising converting a data stream into data packets for transmission over the Internet under the control of the host system.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein client configuration is performed automatically by the host system when the host system is first powered on.

40. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the connecting step comprises using a wireless connection technology.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the linking step occurs automatically once the requirements for connecting the client system to the target network have been determined.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the packets are VoIP.

43. (previously presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the packets are sent over any available port in order to pass through a firewall.

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 33 wherein the client system connects to and disconnects from the host system and second host system via the determining requirements step.

45. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein the connecting step comprises the step of coordinating the different frequencies used by the client system in connecting to the host system

46-47. (cancelled)

48. (cancelled)